REMARKS

The applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough examination of the application and requests reexamination and reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-13, 21-38, 40, 42, 43, 44, and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,741,260 to Songer et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,476,465 to Preissman. The applicant herein cancels each of these claims to hereby traverse this rejection. To place claim 39 in allowable format, the applicant herein amends claim 39 to include the features of cancelled claims 34 and 35 to place it in independent form.

Claims 1-15, 17-40, and 42-47 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,395,010.

The applicant herein submits a Terminal Disclaimer for the '010 patent and a Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) to traverse the rejection of pending claims 14-15, 17-20 and 45-46.

Each of the Examiner's rejections has been addressed or traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If for any reason this Response is found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts at (781) 890-5678.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Poirier

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